

Continuing yesterday's comment on the grade-crossing accident in Ohio which cost the lives of 10 children—

Hope has had several disastrous grade-crossing accidents of its own, despite the protection presumed to be given the traveling public by safety gates and warning lights.

And for all of us there have been interminable delays due to the blocking of streets by railroads which traverse the heart of the business and industrial districts.

A few years ago we had a bit of luck when Missouri Pacific, wishing to lay extra trackage downtown, was compelled to go along with the city in building the Hervey street underpass which serves state highway No. 4 north to Washington, Columbus, Ozark, Nashville.

There was considerable debate at the time over whether the first underpass should be located, but in view of the traffic on No. 1, first choice probably should have been given, as it was, to Hervey street.

But the experience we have had with one underpass only makes it all the more imperative that now we undertake to get another one. The east side of the business district needs some way to duck under stalled railroad trains in a hurry. For the bulk of the city's factories lie on the east side, with the Missouri Pacific separating them from the heart of the city. Furthermore, the daily volume of local traffic across the Walnut street and other grade-crossings on the east side is one of the heaviest in town.

It is time we put a second underpass on our calendar for community action in 1948.

BY JAMES THRASHER

Exports to Russia vs. Aid to Europe

It has been moved by Harold Stassen and seconded by rep John Tabor that the U. S. stop shipping machinery, machine tools and industrial material to Russia. The suggestion has received a good deal of immediate support—much more than the President, to whom Mr. Stassen addressed the motion.

The Republican aspirant to Mr. Truman's job lauded the present trade with the Soviets "economic appeasement," and at first glance it would seem that the aid to Europe bill might shut off that aid. But after the Japanese experience, we are again providing the materials of death that will be used against us.

But there are other questions that should be asked before we demand a break in Soviet-American trade. What sort of machines and materials are we sending Russia and how much?

Is it wise for the U. S. to impose economic sanctions on its own, while trying at the same time to strengthen the U. S.?

If such economic sanctions are imposed, what will Russia do about them?

In connection with the last question, Mr. Stassen made an interesting point in his telegram to Mr. Truman which has drawn an equally interesting, though unofficial, reply from the State Department.

Mr. Stassen called attention to the fact that the Communists and the Russian government have not permitted a normal flow of machinery and equipment from the steel works of Czechoslovakia to Western Europe and have obstructed the movement of materials between Eastern and Western Europe, and Eastern and Western Germany.

The State Department's point is that if the Russian government can check the normal flow of exports from its own and its satellite countries, now it might shut off that flow completely in retaliation for America's embargo on exports to Russia. Such action not only might aid enormously to the cost of the Marshall Plan but also prove to be the final stroke that divides Europe.

It should not be forgotten that the secretary of state's original proposal for European recovery in Russia and the eastern European states was well received by nations that finally accepted it. One objective was, and evidently still is, to hasten the return of normal trade throughout Europe. It stands without reason that the less the objective can be reached the less the Marshall plan will cost, and the less chance there will be of its failure.

The members of Congress who feel Mr. Stassen's suggestion and who also favor the greatest possible economy in the program of European aid might consider such factors as the relative cost of providing and transporting American machinery and Czech machinery, American and Polish coal.

It can be argued, on the other hand, that the Russian satellites, especially Czechoslovakia and Poland, must export in order to live. The Soviet government might have to permit them to trade, however much it disliked the idea, in order to retain what support it has in those countries and to avoid an

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20 Years Ago Today

Jan. 6, 1928  
Miss Caroline Clark had charge of B & P Club's interesting leap year program. Also appearing on the program were Nita Jim Cheung and Elizabeth Harrison—A Standard Sunday School Training school here was planned by Presbyterian and Methodist churches—Lasses White minstreils will appear in Hope January 19—Leslie Daniels had charge of weekly radio program presenting Mrs. Tully Henry and Mrs. Robert Campbell—J. W. Harper was candidate for city treasurer—Nomads of the North" featuring Lon Chaney was playing at a local theater.

1500 Jews Keep Up Sniper Fire in Jerusalem

Jerusalem, Jan. 6.—(AP)—Gunfire sounded almost constantly in Jerusalem today as 1,500 beleaguered Jews in the old city kept up a sniper's duel with numerically superior Arab riflemen.

Arab sources meanwhile reported that Hagana machinegunners had made dawn raids on two Arab villages on the outskirts of Jerusalem but had been beaten off by the villagers. Casualties in these engagements remained unknown, but it was believed they were light.

Police said Jewish snipers killed a nine-year-old Arab boy in Jerusalem. A British constable was shot to death near the center of Jaffa.

The only known fatality of the day was recorded in Jaffa, where a British constable was shot to death near the center of the city, raising to 594 the unofficial count of persons slain in Palestine's bitter communal warfare since the UN "Nations" partition decision last Nov. 29.

In the Katamon quarter of Jerusalem British troops and police continued to comb the wreckage of the bomb-razed Semiramis hotel.

Police complained that they had been shot at during the night by unidentified persons—whom they believed to be Jews—but they were no casualties.

Just before noon rescue workers removed five dead and injured, but badly injured, in a 28-year-old Arab woman who had lain buried in the debris for 30 hours.

The Jerusalem Consular corps sent delegations to the Palestine government asking greater protection, and to the Jewish agency and Arab higher executive asking both to observe international courtesy in respecting the safety of diplomats.

They acted after discussing the death Sunday at the bombed Semiramis hotel of M. Allende Salazar, acting Spanish consul, and the reported experiences of all consuls in Jerusalem at Arab road blocks and forced to show credentials.

The Jewish agency said through a spokesman the death of the Spaniard was a tragedy and that "Hagana (the underground Jewish defense force) had been cautioned to be more careful."

"The fact that so many innocent persons were killed in the Semiramis attack may have been due to faulty intelligence work by Hagana," continued on Page Two

Repudiation of Wallace by CIO 'Break'

By HENRY LEADER

Albany, N. Y., Jan. 6.—(AP)—The New York state CIO's condemnation of the Communist nomination of Henry A. Wallace as a "break" for both Gov. Thomas E. Dewey and President Truman.

Through its executive board, the state CIO adopted a resolution last night (terming "irresponsible" the action of Wallace and his supporters in launching a third party movement. The Marshall plan was endorsed, but shut off that flow completely in retaliation for America's embargo on exports to Russia. Such action not only might aid enormously to the cost of the Marshall Plan but also prove to be the final stroke that divides Europe.

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Million Dollar Offer for M&A Line Refused

Harrison, Jan. 6.—(AP)—Owners of the little Missouri and Arkansas railway have turned down an offer of \$1,000,000 for the line. J. E. Sawhill, a representative of a Citizens Committee seeking to rehabilitate the railroad, reported yesterday.

Sawhill said he had made the offer in behalf of the committee, backed by Chicago interests, but that it had been rejected by M. M. Salzberg, head of a New York salvage firm planning to junk the railroad.

Sawhill also said he had been advised by officials of the Interstate Commerce Commission that the ICC would consider no proposed purchase of the M. & A. for less than the established salvage value of \$2,632,000.

The ICC is expected to issue a ruling soon on the owners' application to abandon the M. & A., which extends from Joplin, Mo., to Helena, Ark.

The M. & A. has been inoperative since September, 1946, when its employees walked out in a demand for wage increases.

State Police to Get Tough With Speeders

Little Rock, Jan. 6.—(AP)—In an effort to stem the rising tide of traffic fatalities, an average of 1.6 a day in the first five days of 1948—State Police Director Jack Porter said today he had ordered more rigid enforcement of state highway speed limits.

State police records show that through yesterday eight persons died in traffic accidents in Arkansas, and 16 took a job as a laborer in a sugar factory.

In 1947 I joined the Falcon organization, a group of independent-minded Poles, in their uprising against the Kaiser. In 1929 I was a private in the Polish forces that turned back the advancing Bolsheviks. I was wounded.

So, before my 20th birthday, I had been a private in what amounted to two wars for the freedom of my country. And when the second war was done and Poland's sovereignty established beyond doubt, I returned to our family farm near Poznan and worked there, increasing our holdings to 12 acres.

And I went back to school, got interested in various agricultural, cooperative and political clubs in my area and joined the Polish Peasant Party, which was attracted to it because of its liberal, democratic platform and because it represented the hopes and ideals of a majority of the Polish people.

Today under Communist domination for Poles to espouse the same hopes and ideals is tantamount to inviting the Russian-trained Security Police to crack down with penalties that range from confiscation of one's property to death.

By 1924 I was secretary of the district headquarters of the Peasant Party, editor of a farmer's weekly, a contributor to news-papers and magazines which are now banned or censored. I was president of the Association of Polish Youth of Western Poland, founder and instructor in the Peasant University at Nielazkow, and active in cooperative organizations.

I ran for Parliament in 1930 on the Peasant Party ticket and was elected from the Gniezno area. Pilsudski and Beck had seized control of the Polish government, continued on Page Two

Senate Grain Questioning Is Delayed

Washington, Jan. 6.—(AP)—Harold E. Stassen's appearance before a Senate committee to back up his assertions that government insiders have profited from commodity speculation was delayed today.

Stassen, a candidate for the Republican presidential nomination, will be the first witness when a Senate appropriations subcommittee headed by Senator Ferguson (R-Iowa) begins public hearings into commodity speculation in New York.

The former Minnesota governor had been slated to appear Thursday morning. Ferguson said Stassen told him over telephone late last night that he has a long-standing speaking engagement in Pennsylvania which will prevent his testifying then. He added Stassen said he would be glad to appear.

Ferguson told reporters the delay also will give the committee additional time to prepare its evidence in the case of Brig. Gen. Wallace. If it is given, President Truman's personal physician, who will be an early witness.

Ferguson announced the scheduled change as the committee resumed taking secret testimony from government employees who have acknowledged trading in commodities.

Meanwhile, Graham's brokers, Baehne and Company of New York, sent the committee additional information. Committee members said the original data furnished yesterday was not complete, and that they had asked more details.

The committee had requested a complete record of Graham's account. He has acknowledged that he held 50,000 bushels of wheat futures last September. But Graham said he did not know it then because he had given Baehne and Company a free hand.

'The Coming Russian Terror' as Told by Polish Leader Who Recently Made His Escape

By Stanislaw Mikolajczyk (Former Prime Minister of Poland and President of the Polish Peasant Party) Editor: J. H. Considine Copyright, 1948, King Features Syndicate Inc.

Installation 3 (Editor's Note: Stanislaw Mikolajczyk, who fled from Communist-dominated Poland to reveal this story, tells in today's article how the hopes of his countrymen were crushed when Russia, breaking her pact, invaded Poland from the east as the Nazi war machine smashed the little Polish army in the west, and of his own flight to Hungary.)

(Capitalized syllables are accented) Nyczakow (Nych-LAHSS-koo) Gniezno (G'N-YEHZ-noh—with a hard N) Wincenty Witos (Veen-TSEHN-tee VEE-toss) Marjan (MAHR-yahn) Wladyslaw Sikorski (Vlah-DIEE-swa h v Shee-KORR-skee)

It may perhaps help the reader understand what is happening in Poland today if he first understands what happened to me during those tragic days of disorder leading up to and following the declaration of World War II.

Europe is a land of intense nationalistic feeling, and I readily shared that trait. My father, one of the children born on a small farm in Western Poland, had given up the soil to work in the coal mines of Western Germany. We remained Poles at heart.

I was born in Western Germany, returned to the farm with my mother. I was seven and at 16 took a job as a laborer in a sugar factory.

In 1918 I joined the Falcon organization, a group of independent-minded Poles, in their uprising against the Kaiser. In 1929 I was a private in the Polish forces that turned back the advancing Bolsheviks. I was wounded.

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U. S. Approves Greek Addition to Army, Guard

By L. S. CHAKALES

Athens, Jan. 6.—(AP)—With the consent of the United States, the strength of the Greek Army is to be increased by 12,000 men and the manpower of the National Guard is to be boosted to 50,000 men, President Truman's cabinet food announced last night.

The decision, he said, constitutes a reply to the help given Communist rebels by Greece's neighbors and is intended to encourage those who defended and liberated Konitsa in the last week of the old year. The announcement was issued after Sophoulis conferred for two hours with Dwight P. Griswold, head of the American aid mission to Greece.

By strengthening the national guard, Sophoulis said, the army will be freed of guard duties and enabled to pursue and attack the guerrillas of Markos Vafiades, the rebel chieftain, who has proclaimed a Communist state in Greece.

At the same time, the U. S. State Department announced in Washington that as part of the program to aid Greece in its fight against communism Britain had been given blanket authority to transfer lend-lease military equipment to the Greek government.

The equipment, surplus to British needs, already is in Greece, the department said, but no inventory is available.

The manpower increase for the Greek armed forces was the second authorized by the United States since the \$300,000,000 aid program went into effect. Last September a temporary increase of 20,000 men and an additional permanent increase of 10,000 men for the army was authorized. The Greeks had asked an increase of 70,000 men.

Griswold said at the time that it could be inferred from the increase that "reconstruction appropriations will be decreased to allow for military requirements."

Sophoulis' announcement last night said the United States also is considering the supply and equipment of Greek troops, including machine-guns and mountain artillery. Greek soldiers have complained that they are handicapped in their fight against the guerrillas by unsuitable equipment.

It also was agreed at the conference, the premier said, that a closer relationship would be effected at the end of the year. U. S. officers already are attached to the army down to the division level.

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As Usual Russian Writer Blames United States

Moscow, Jan. 6.—(AP)—An Izvestia commentator asserted today that it was primarily the fault of the United States if the nations of Eastern Europe were not exporting goods to Western Europe at the pre-war level.

The writer, I. Konstantinovskiy, pictured Eastern Europe as eager to trade with the western nations and doing everything in its power to increase its exports.

However, he asserted, the United States had brought pressure on the Western European nations for bidding them to renew on a full scale their economic relations with Eastern Europe.

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Congress Meets Amid Signs of 'Differences'

Washington, Jan. 6.—(AP)—Congress convened at 10 a. m. after a lull before the storm atmosphere. There was no fanfare and only routine formalities in the Senate and House. But off the floor the talk was of battles ahead in an election year over widely domestic and foreign issues.

Traditionally, congress under takes no business until it receives the president's annual state-of-the-union message. Mr. Truman will deliver that in person at 12:30 p. m. (CST).

It is expected to draw clearly the lines between the White House and the Republican-controlled national legislature on many matters. Mr. Truman may give his vision of what he wants — on tax reduction, foreign aid, military training, powers to use against high prices.

Congress' answer will come by bill in the debates and the votes of the months ahead will draw the November elections closer.

While almost all congress members were in town for the session that all attended the opening meeting. There were many vacant seats in both chambers, but the galleries drew their normal crowd of visitors.

Since congress adjourned Dec. 19, Rep. Patrick Drewry, Virginia Democrat, has died.

Drewry's death and the resignation of Earle Clements, Democrat, elected governor of Kentucky, left the political lineup in the House at 445 members, 180 Democrats, one American-born and 100 foreign-born. The other vacancy was caused by the resignation of Rep. Evan Howell, Illinois Republican.

The Senate started off with no vacancies and a lineup of 81 Republicans and 45 Democrats.

White House aides reported president Truman has his message "almost completed." He called an unusual session of his cabinet for this afternoon to go over the message with the members.

The gulf which divides the president and the Republican-controlled legislative branch was pointed up perfectly by a new report that Mr. Truman might propose other taxes, one on corporate profits, in order to leave a margin for low bracket personal income tax relief without cutting "other" government revenues.

There was only one of the plain indications that the session will develop into a running controversy between the White House and the law-making majority from the fall of the opening gavel at noon (E. S. T.) right up to adjournment in June for the national political conventions.

Even so, Mr. Truman was putting the finishing touches to what Ileana, a lobbyist, described as a "leavening message" to be delivered in person tomorrow. Republicans staked out the lines for a fight of their own to cut taxes and slash government spending.

There were these session-even developments to indicate that developments will be few and far between:

1. Chairman Taber (R-NY) of the House Appropriations Committee has called for a "big" budget of \$40,000,000,000 "too damn high" and promised to whittle it down.

2. Chairman Knutson (R-Minn) of the House Ways and Means Committee has called for a determination, with leadership backing, to launch through a \$5,000,000,000 tax-reduction bill which will provide at least a percentage reduction for every body.

3. The administration abandoned its attempt to have Congress pass a possible \$17,000,000,000 outlay for European recovery over the next four years but ran into new Republican demands for further assistance, declined to comment on the change.

4. Top GOP leaders in both Senate and House fired a verbal broadside at the administration and blamed it for the present high cost of living.

From one of Mr. Truman's own advisers it was learned that the chief executive has been considering setting forth an administration tax relief plan to encounter the Knutson bill.

This, if it goes into the message at all, the adviser told a reporter, will call for higher levies on corporate profits and a corresponding reduction in personal income taxes, with the biggest cuts in the lowest brackets.

"In other words, it is proposed to take a little of the tax burden off at the bottom and add a little (Continued on Page Four)

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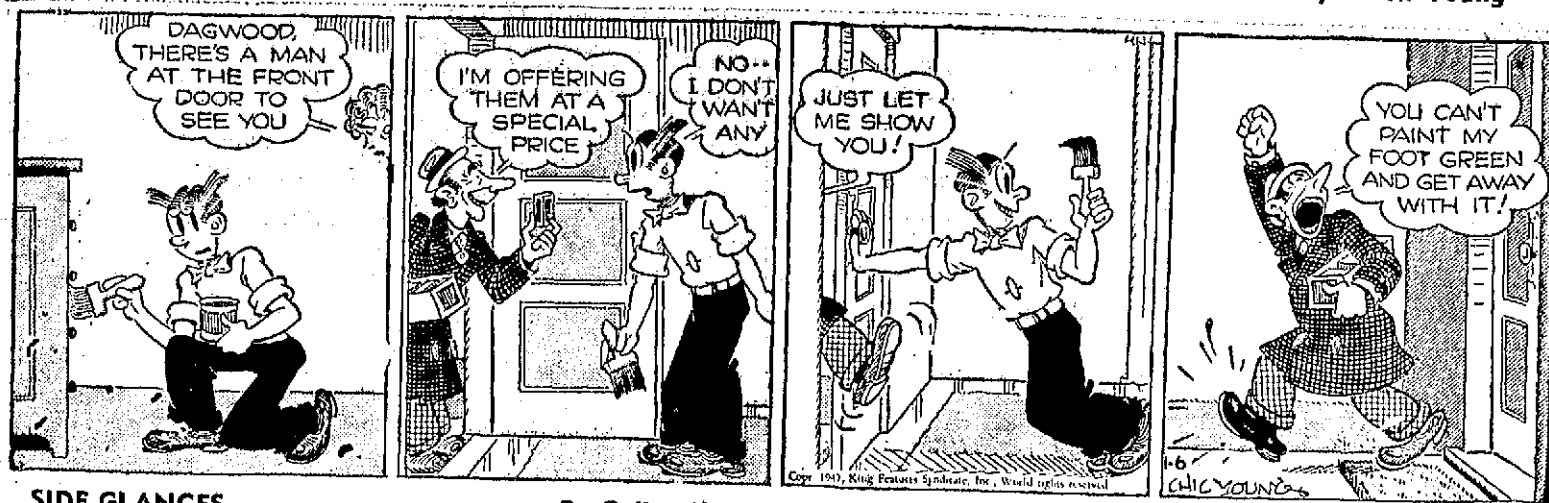
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BLONDIE



By Chick Young

OSARK IKE



Page Three

By Ray Gane

SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



"I'm beginning to lose faith in Dr. Brown—he never tells me I've got what I think I have!"

CARNIVAL

By Dick Turner



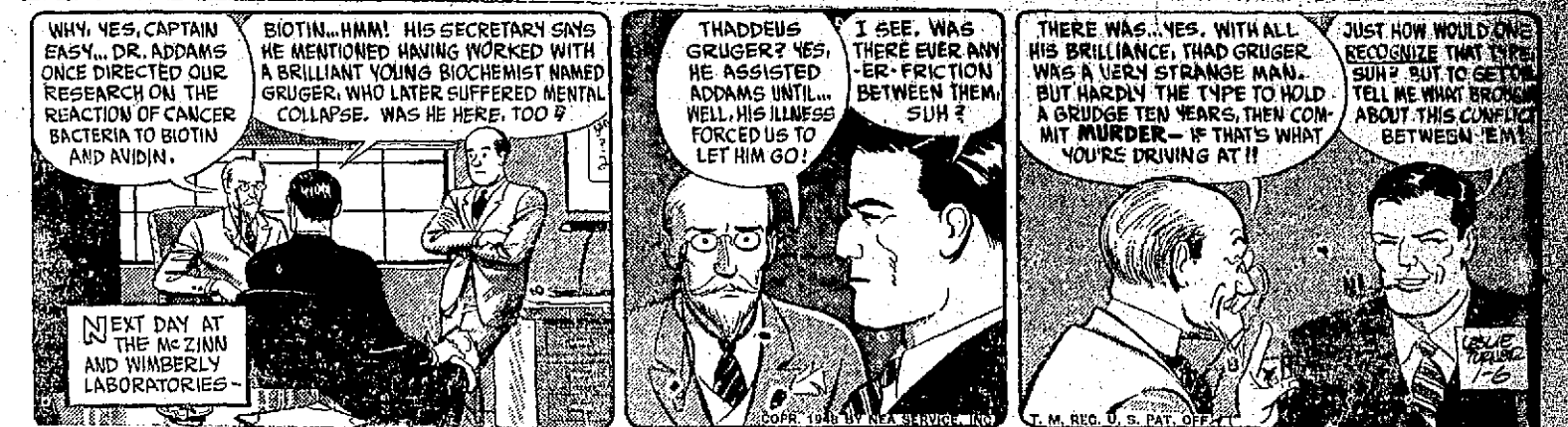
"For a quick sale I can let you have this gorgeous number at a big reduction—my wife's got her eye on it!"

VIC FLINT



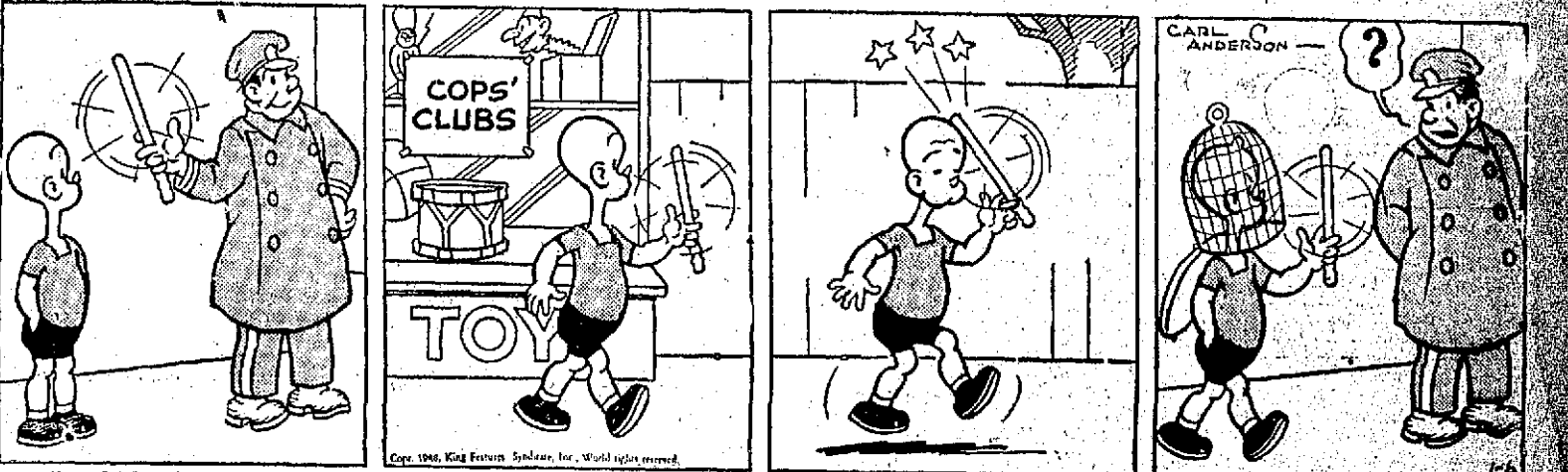
By Michael O'Malley & Ralph Lane

WASH TUBBS



By Leslie Turner

HENRY



By Carl Anderson

FUNNY BUSINESS

By Hershberger



"He still refuses to believe he needs glasses!"

FRECKLES AND HIS FRIENDS

By Blosser



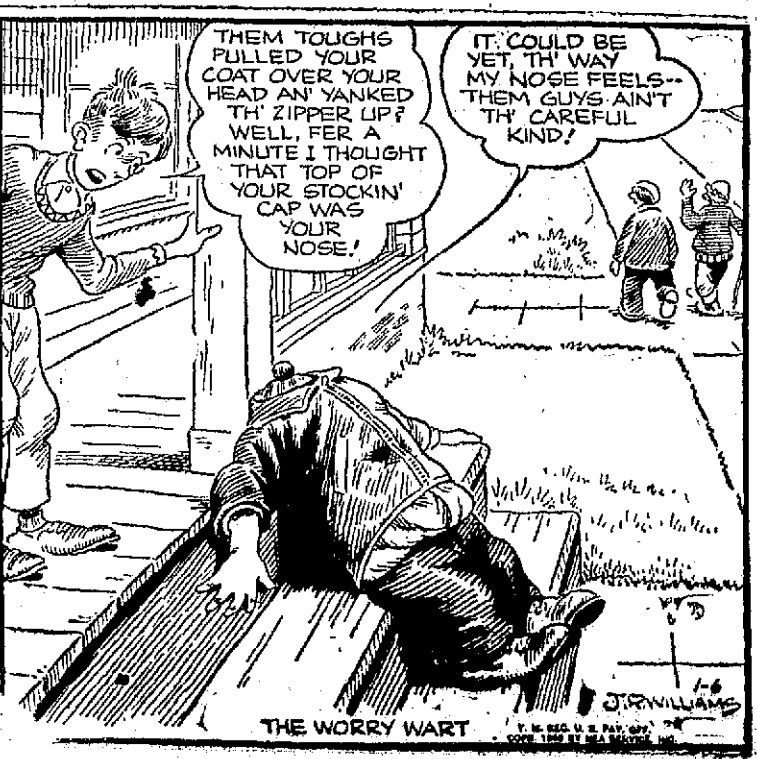
POPEYE



Thimble Theater

OUT OUR WAY

By J. R. Williams

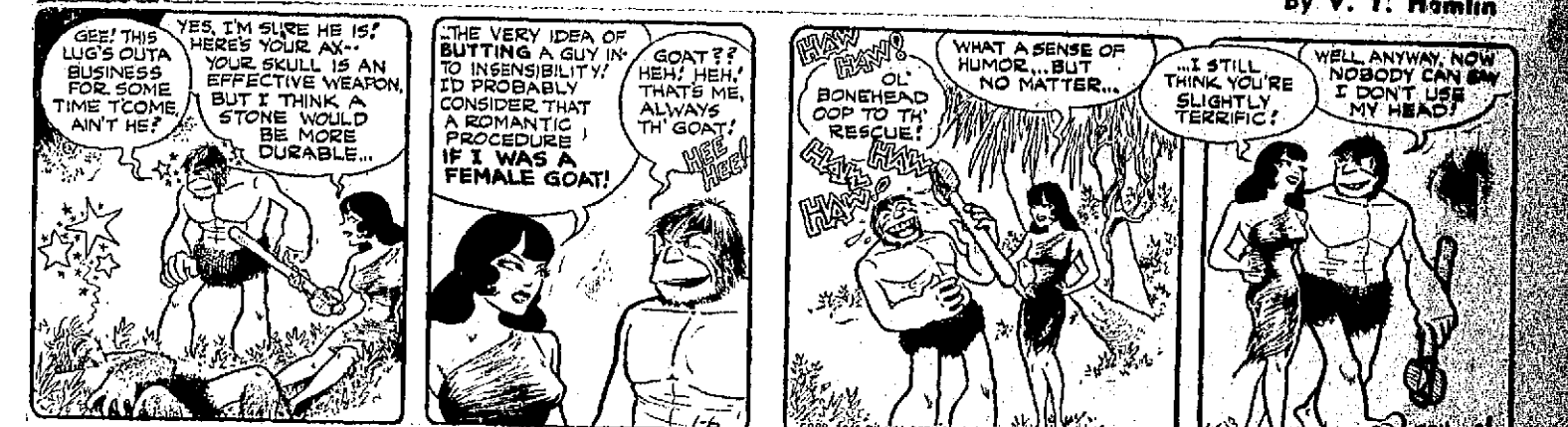


OUR BOARDING HOUSE

With Major Hoople

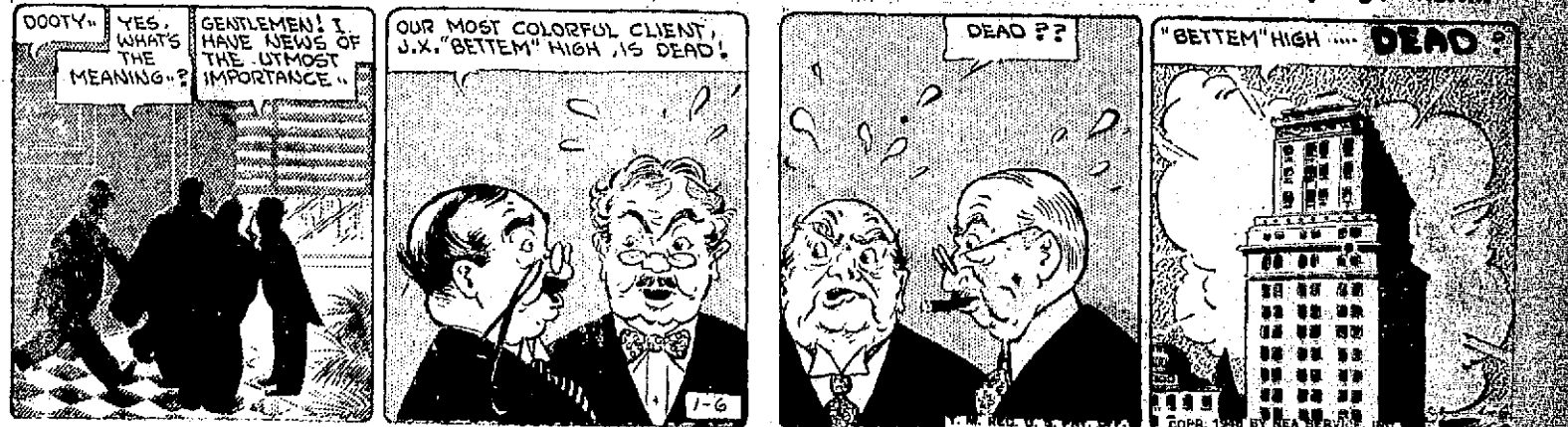


ALLEY OOP



By V. T. Hentlin

BOOTS



By Edger Martin

KED RYDER



By Fred Harman



